

REMARKS

The present invention is directed to a float textile having an improved optical interference function, containing a float texture that interlaced yarn formed by combining and interlacing multi-filament yarns is used as a warp float and/or weft float component and having a float number of 2 or more.

In this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended to recite --interlaced-- yarn at line 2 and interlacing the --combined-- multi-filament yarns at line 9. These amendments are supported by the specification at, for example, page 9, lines 6-9.

No new matter has been added and entry of the Amendment is respectfully requested. Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-8 will be all the claims pending in the application.

In the Office Action Summary, the Examiner did not indicate receipt of the certified copy of the priority document. The Examiner is respectfully requested to make such an acknowledgement. Applicants have attached herewith a copy of Request for Early Notice of Serial Number, which indicates that the certified copy of the priority document was filed with the application on April 26, 2001.

In Paragraph No. 3 of the Office Action, claims 1-8 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as allegedly being anticipated by WO 98/46815, corresponding to U.S. 6,430,348 to Asano et al, for the same reasons as set forth in the previous Office Action.

Applicants respectfully submit that the claims as amended are not anticipated by Asano et al for the following reasons.

First, Applicants submit that the multi-filament yarns of the float textile are always interlaced. The number of interlaces is 20 or less per meter, but is not zero. This is clear from the description at page 9, lines 6-9 and Examples 1-5 of the present application.

Asano et al discloses a zero-twist or zero-interlace yarn. However, Asano et al does not disclose or suggest that the multi-filament yarns are interlaced nor a number of interlaces.

Further, the float textile of the present invention exhibits a superior color development effect and is of high utility value as a room interior material or car interior material. As shown in the Examples, when the number of interlaces is zero (Comparative Example 1), a float textile does not have sufficiently high strength. On the other hand, when the number of interlaces is 30 (Comparative Example 3), gloss and color development become slight.

In view of the above, the present invention is not anticipated by or rendered obvious over Asano et al. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider and withdraw the rejection.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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WASHINGTON OFFICE



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PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

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APPENDIX

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

The claims are amended as follows:

1. (amended) A float textile having an improved optical interference function, containing a float texture that interlaced yarn formed by combining three or more multi-filament yarns each comprising, as a constituent unit, optically interfering mono-filaments which are formed by alternately laminating layers of at least two polymers having different refractive indices and which have a flattening ratio of 4 to 15 and by interlacing the combined multi-filament yarns to form 20 or less interlaces per meter is used as a warp float and/or weft float component, and having a float number of 2 or more.